PRATHAM BOOKS
A Book in Every Child's Hand

पठन स्तर २

कहानी केलों की!

Author: Rohini Nilekani
Illustrator: Angie & Upesh
Translator: Manisha Chaudhry

श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास आज परेशान था।
किसी को भी उसके खेत के मीठे केले नहीं चाहिये थे।

उसके घरवालों को नहीं।
उसके पड़ोसी को नहीं।
उसके दोस्तों को नहीं।

उन व्यापारियों को नहीं जो दूर बाज़ार में उन्हें बेच सकते थे।
और तो और, उसकी गायों को भी नहीं।

वे सभी बोले, “धन्यवाद, अब और नहीं। केले बड़े मीठे हैं पर हम बहुत खा चुके। अब और नहीं खा सकते!” बेचारा श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास!

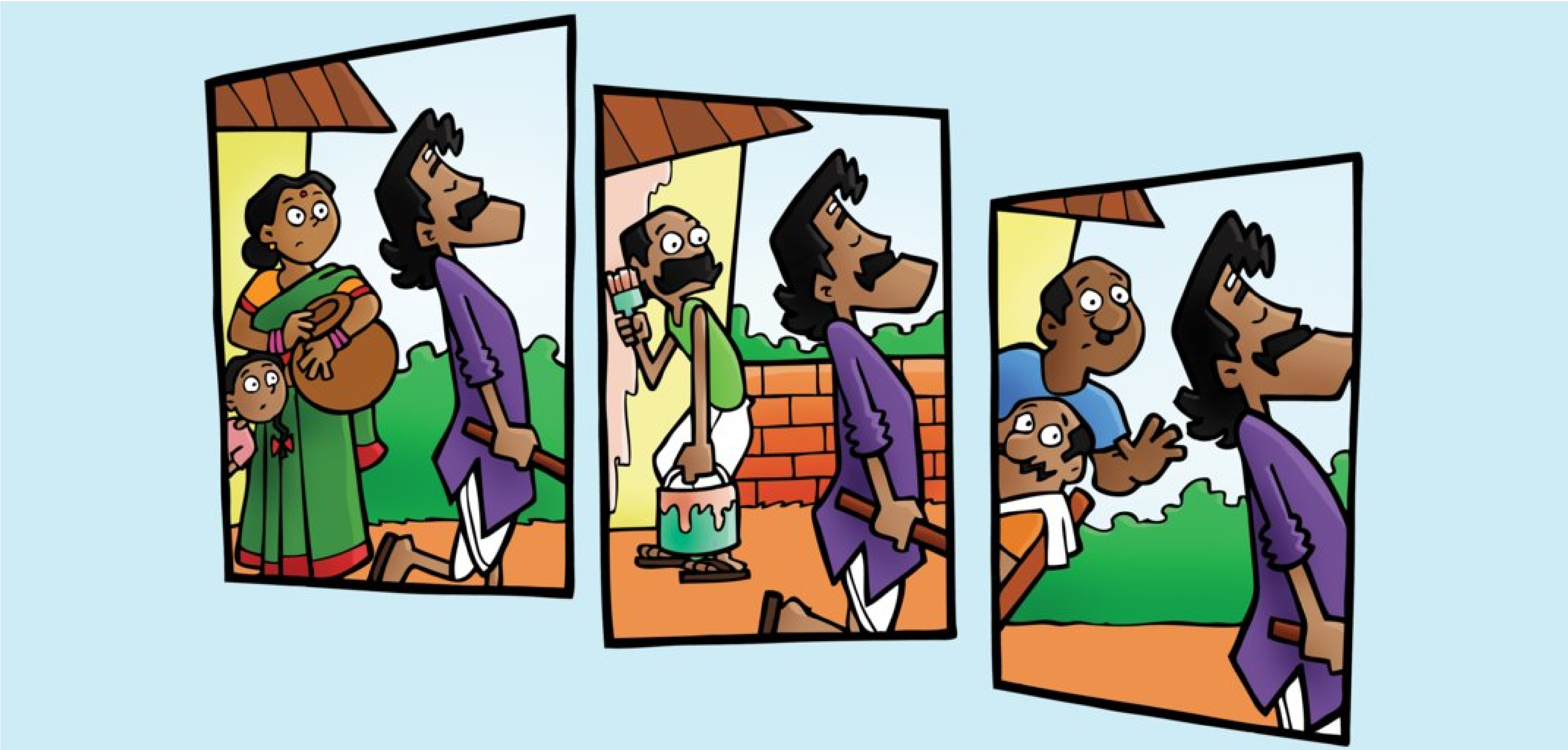
अब इस बढ़िया केले की फ़सल का वह क्या करे?

उसने सोचा गाँव के पास जो बड़ा शहर डोड्डुरू है वहाँ किसान केन्द्र से मदद माँगी जाये।

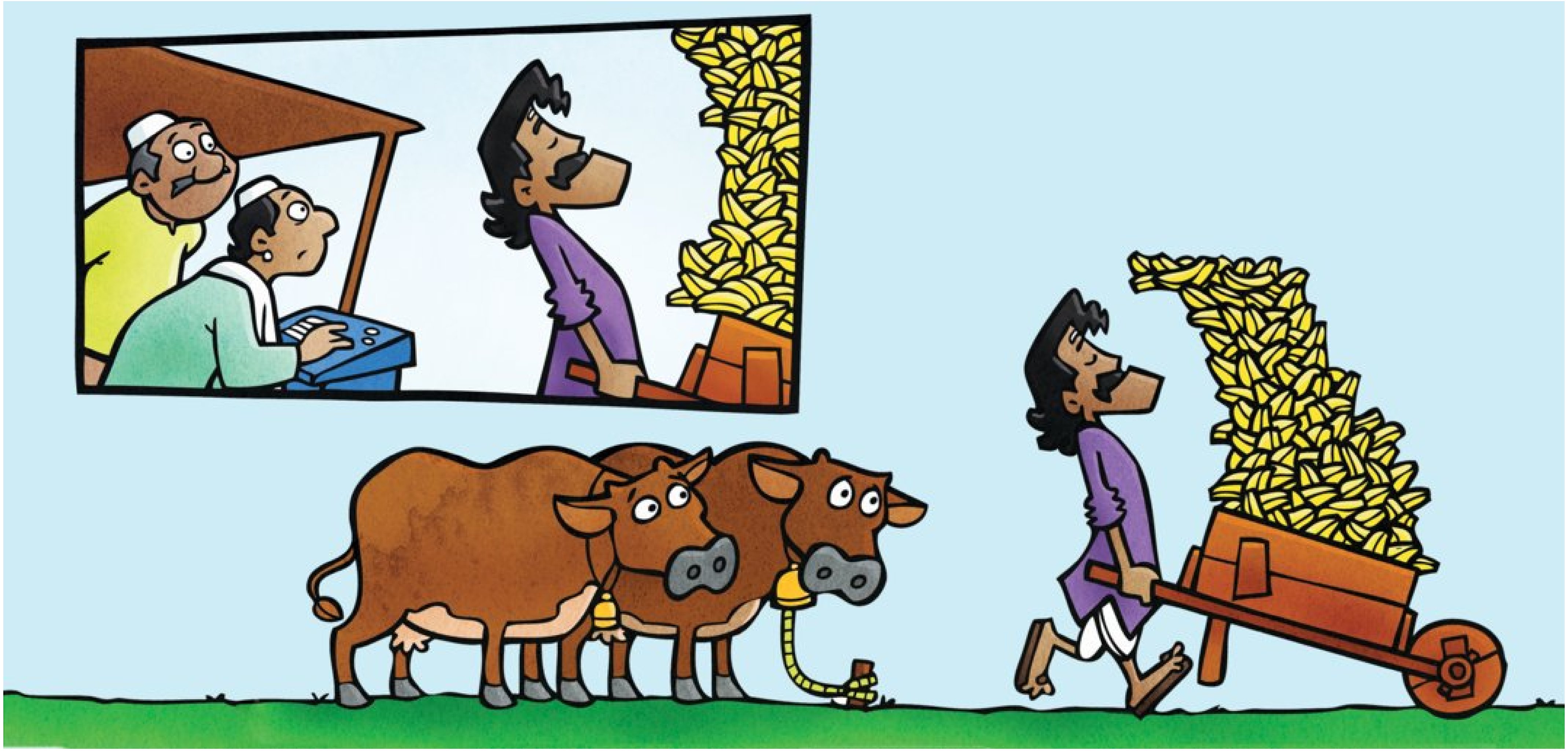
सबसे बढ़िया केले गाड़ी पर लाद कर वह चल पड़ा।
ज़रूर कोई न कोई उसे एक अच्छा सुझाव देगा।

कुछ दिनों बाद श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास खुशी-खुशी घर लौटा।
उसने खेतों में फिर से केले उगाये।

पर इस बार उसने किसी को भी केले नहीं दिये।



अपने घरवालों को नहीं।
अपने पड़ोसी को नहीं।
अपने दोस्तों को नहीं।



उन व्यापारियों को नहीं जो दूर बाज़ार में उन केलों को बेच सकते थे।
और हाँ, अपनी गायों को भी नहीं!

सबका माथा ठनका।
केले आखिर कहाँ जा रहे थे?

एक दिन उसके पड़ोसी शिवन्ना ने बड़ी सी पूजा का आयोजन किया।

पंडित जी ने कहा कि भगवान को चढ़ाने के लिये 108 पके केले ले के आओ।

शिवन्ना दौड़ा-दौड़ा श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास के पास पहुँचा। “पहले मना करने के लिये माफ़ी चाहता हूँ पर अब मुझे 108 पके केले चाहियें। मेरी मदद करोगे?”

श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास ने ज़रा सोचा।
“वैसे तो मेरी फ़सल अब कट चुकी है पर देखता हूँ शायद कुछ हो सके। तुम अपनी पूजा शुरू करो। मैं ज़रूर पहुँच जाऊँगा।”

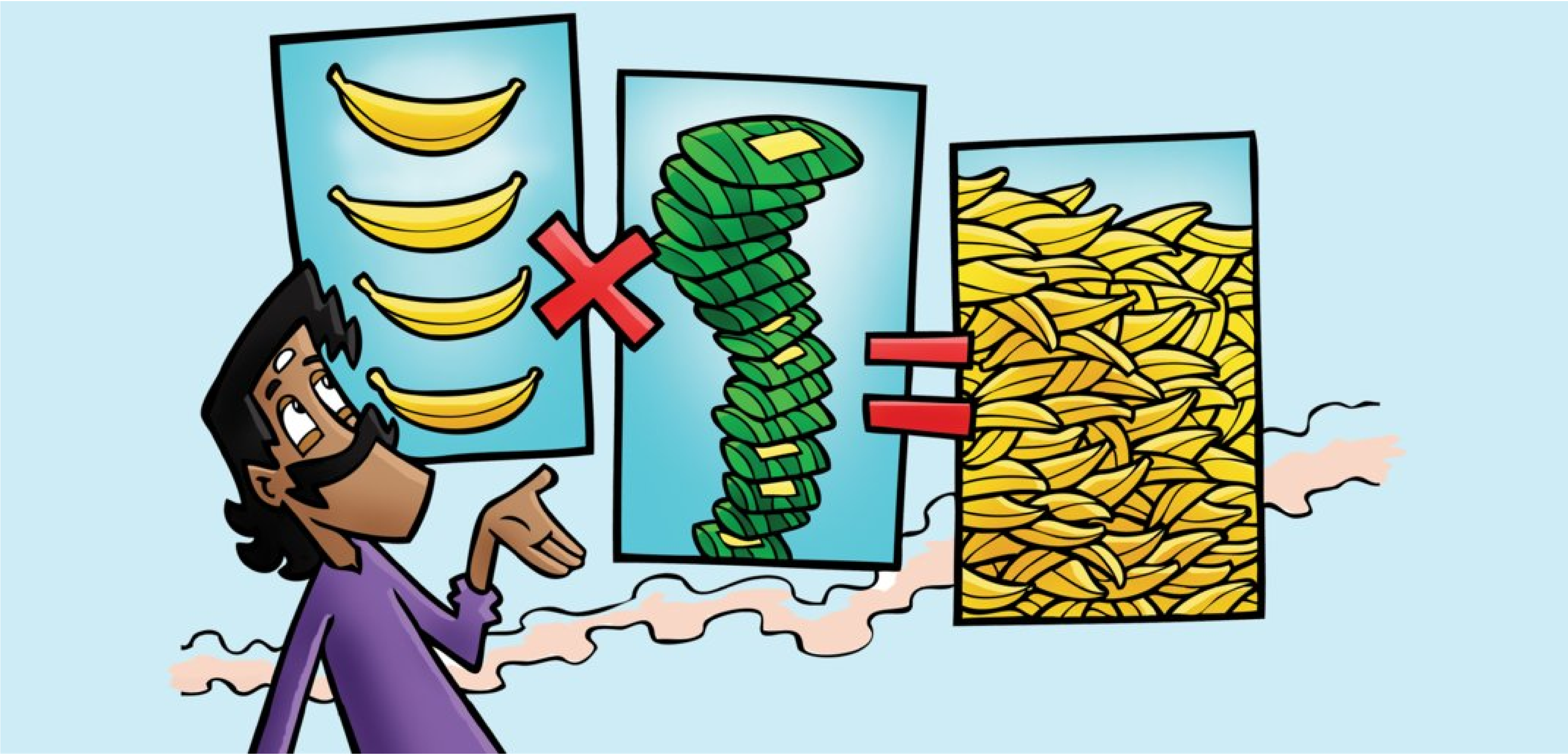
पूजा शुरू हो गई।
सभी गाँववाले देखने आये।
पंडित जी ने मंत्र पढ़े।

जल्द ही वह समय आ गया जब भगवान को केले चढ़ाने थे।

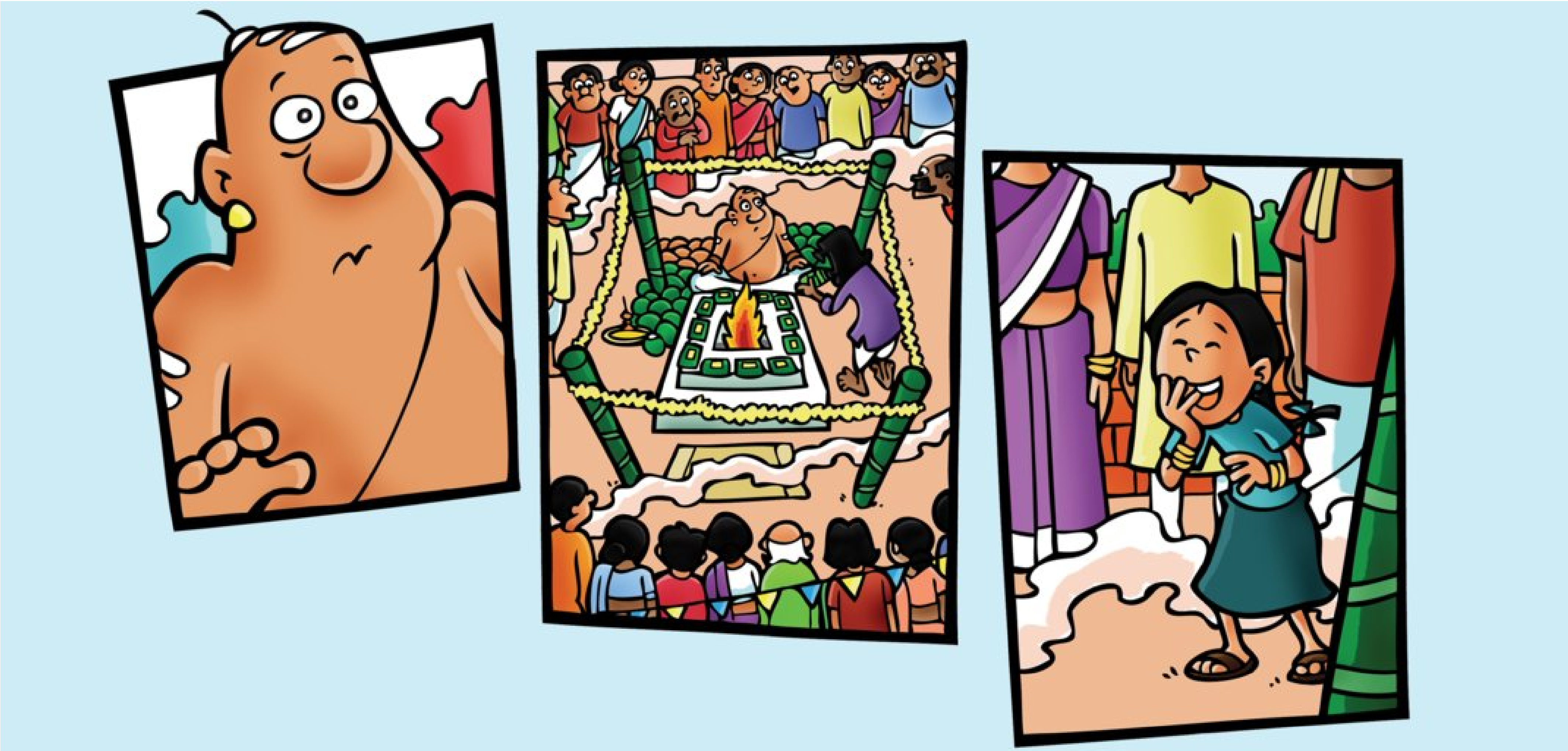
तभी श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास एक बड़ा सा थैला ले के वहाँ पहुँचा।

थैले में से उसने 27 पैकेट निकाल कर पवित्र अग्नि के आस-पास रख दिये। हर पैकेट अच्छे से केले के पत्ते में लिपटा हुआ था।

हर पैकेट पे लिखा था: “उच्च कोटि केले का हलवा-एस एस फ़ार्म्स”
श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास ने एक पैकेट पंडित जी को दिया।



“हरेक पैकेट में 4 केलों का गूदा है। तो ये रहे आपके 108 पके केले!”
कुल 27 पैकेट हैं।



पंडित जी का मुँह खुला का खुला रह गया। बेचारे मंत्र बोलना भी भूल गये!
सन्नाटे में एक बच्चे ने किलकारी मारी!

कुछ ही देर में सभी गाँव वाले भी हँसते-हँसते ताली बजा रहे थे।

अब सभी को पता है कि श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास अपने केले की फसल का क्या करता है।

क्या आप जानते हैं?

बनाना यानि अंग्रेज़ी में केले का नाम अरबी भाषा में "अंगुली" के नाम से आता है।

विश्व भर में भारत केलों का सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है। यहाँ खाने योग्य 120 किस्म के केले उगते है।

ट्रिची में नैशनल रिसर्च सेन्टर ऑन बनानाज़ में 1120 केले की किस्में हैं।

केलों में खनिज हैं जो दिमाग की शक्ति बढ़ाते हैं। केले से विद्यार्थियों को स्फूर्ति मिलती है।

कई भारतीय मिठाइयाँ केलों से बनती हैं- केरल में केला पायसम, कर्नाटक में केला रसायना, केले का हलवा, रवा केला- गुड़ की मिठाई। क्या आप और मिठाइयों के नाम जानते हैं?

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कहानी केलों की!

(Hindi)

श्रिंगेरी श्रीनिवास के खेतों में बढ़िया मीठे केले उगते थे। पर कोई भी उन्हें खाना नहीं चाहता था। इस मीठी कहानी को पढ़ कर पता लगाइये कि श्रिंगेरी ने केलों का क्या किया।

यह पठन स्तर २ की किताब है, उन बच्चों के लिए जो सरल शब्द पढ़ लेते हैं और थोड़ी मदद से नए शब्द भी पढ़ सकते हैं।

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